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TALK OF PEACE IN ALL THE CAPITALS

Persistent Rumors That
Russia and Japan May
Be Brought Together.

IDEA NOT CREDITED UP IN WASHINGTON

High Official Quoted as Saying
Russia Cannot Afford to Con-
sider Terms—What Each
Country Might De-
mand in a Con-
ference.

(Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch;
Copyright.)

LONDON, Feb. 9.—Whether it be true or not that the Chancelleries of Europe and State Department at Washington are discussing a plan to end the war between Japan and Russia, the fact remains that reports come from high sources in all the capitals of the civilized world that a movement is well under way to bring the conflicting powers together at least for an exchange of views.

From Berlin comes the report that Secretary Hay had already cabled Lord Lansdown, the British minister for foreign affairs, who has in turn communicated with the Japanese government, which has expressed a willingness to talk the matter over. This action of Secretary Hay, it is asserted, was due to a message either from the Czar or the cabal of Grand Dukes to Count Cassini, asking him to have Mr. Hay sound the Japanese.

Activity in the Bonds.

As a result of these rumors, the market for both Russian and Japanese securities showed unusual strength to-day, and there was a decided feeling of buoyancy among holders of bonds. Even German investors who have shown little interest heretofore, were buyers to-day, and on the Berlin Bourse there was a strong upward tendency.

Another thing which would seem to give credence to the reports is the fact that the Trans-Siberian telegraph line has been so busy for three days with government business that no private messages have been sent or received. This would lead one to conclude that the Japanese government was consulting as to the plan for ending hostilities. Another thing which has a strong effect on the opinions of the diplomats is the fact that Russia has within a few days cancelled large orders for supplies and ammunition here and on the continent. This is known to be true in spite of a half-hearted effort to disavow it.

It is declared in well informed circles that both powers are willing to end the war if it can be done without humiliation to either. The greatest difficulty in the way is the question of indemnity.

What Japan Will Demand.

An intimation of the demands which Japan will make came in a telegram from Paris to-day. It declares that first of all Japan will demand a protectorate over Korea, and the restoration of the Island of Sakhalin, which was forcibly taken from the Mikado several years ago. Another demand will be the demilitarization of the fortifications at Vladivostok, and the making of that port free to the commerce of the whole world. Port Arthur must remain in the possession of Japan, who will insist upon control of the railroad from that port to Harbin. The indemnity to be asked will be the cost of the war since the last overtures for peace which were made three months ago.

The Chronicle at St. Petersburg has commented upon the telegram, and the correspondent asserts that Minister Witte informed a friend that "peace must be obtained at any cost."

It is reported that the following terms would be acceptable to Russia: Recognition of Chinese sovereignty in Manchuria, the Liao Tung Peninsula and Port Arthur by both Russia and Japan, giving China permission to lease these territories to Japan for a period of ninety-nine years. Russia is willing to evacuate Manchuria, but demands the retention of Sakhalin and Vladivostok. It is stated the Czar is not willing to pay any indemnity.

NOT SO PROMISING.

New York Herald Correspondent Says Peace Not Expected, President Asked to Act.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—A Washington special to-night to the New York Herald says:

I am enabled to make an exact statement, on the authority of a high official, regarding the reliability of the long continued and persistent talk of peace in the far East.

The official in question said very frankly that there had been an earnest desire on the part of all nations that were observers of the war to terminate the struggle, and it had been discussed informally many times. But he could not see at present the slightest ground for the statement that peace was in sight, or even contemplated by either side.

Of course, Japan would be willing to enter upon peace negotiations at any time, but not so with Russia. Not a sign had come from St. Petersburg or from any Russian diplomat, which would indicate that Russia would listen for an instant to peace proposals. On the contrary, everything that had been said by any competent Russian authority would indicate that Russia intends to proceed with the war.

Of course, it was expected something might happen at any time that would change the complexion of affairs and lead to peace, but at this time there is absolutely nothing in sight. With a single exception, the hope of peace could be based. That would be for Russia to win a considerable victory.

The Herald can also state that a careful inquiry among the legations and embassies of the world revealed the same lack of peace possibilities. No nation seriously thinks that Russia can, under

POINTER ON THE WEATHER

FOR CAST—For
At 1 A. M.



CONDITIONS YESTERDAY:
Temperature: Max. 36; min. 25; mean, 30.5; normal, 30; departure, 4; precipitation, .56. Range of the Thermometer: 5 A. M., 31; 12 M., 33; 3 P. M., 35; 6 P. M., 38; 9 P. M., 37; 12 midnight, 35; average, 30.5. Sun rise to-day, 7:05; sun sets, 5:42; moon sets, 11:36. High Tide: Morning, 8:48; evening, 5:47.

RAILROAD RATE BILL IS PASSED

Went Through the House
by the Striking Vote
of 326 to 17.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PRESIDENT

John Sharp Williams Says He
Is a Republican Daniel—Pro-
nounced the Greatest Lead-
er Since the Civil War.
How the Vote
Stood.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, February 9.—After nearly four days of discussion the House to-day, by a vote of 326 to 17, passed the Esch-Townsend bill providing for the regulation of freight rates. The negative vote was made up of eleven Republicans and six Democrats.

The closing hours of the debate here between Mr. Williams (Mississippi), the minority leader, and Mr. Hepburn (Iowa), chairman of the committee which reported the bill. Mr. Williams, while supporting the minority measure, even though, he said, he knew it could not pass, complimented the Republicans for bringing in a bill which was much better than he expected would come from them. The speech of Mr. Hepburn was rather in defense of himself. He said that his deeds and acts were a sufficient answer to the "lies and slanders" which had been heaped upon him. The bill known as the Hepburn bill, he said, had been prepared by the Attorney-General, and he only yielded to his colleagues on the committee on the Esch-Townsend bill because he did not want the committee to be the target for scribbles who wanted sensational headlines.

Tribute to Roosevelt.

Less than twenty-five members were in their seats when the debate was opened by Mr. Pierce (Tennessee), who, after announcing that the President on the subject of rate legislation, was the greatest leader that has lived in the Republic since the Civil War, said he would support the Esch-Townsend bill. He, however, based his support upon the fact that William J. Bryan and the Democratic party had declared for just such legislation.

Mr. Williams (Mississippi), at the outset, congratulated the House upon the fact that not only in the matter of rate legislation, but in several other particular, President Roosevelt, nominated by the Republican party and elected by the people, was beginning to assume a distinctly Democratic attitude. He said he had begun to hope that the President would recommend revision of the tariff and that the President would see that it was altogether absurd to keep 20,000 more soldiers than were needed.

The Proper Policy.

Addressing himself to the Republicans, Mr. Williams said they needed nothing more than a marking out of the pathway to follow the President, not because he is President, but because he is a Republican, but because he was outlining the proper policy for the American people.

"Oh!" he said, amid Democratic laughter, "I know how non-partisan you are. A Republican Democrat is calling you," he exclaimed, "and he is at the other end of the avenue, and he is calling you to do identically the same thing that you refused to do, because it came out of a Democratic Nazareth."

Mr. Williams said the country had waited and waited for the railroads themselves to do justice. He agreed in part with Mr. McCall (Massachusetts), who had said the right to fix rates was a dangerous power to confer on seven men, but he argued it was a choice between evils, as only about seven great railroad

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

SCRAMBLE TO REACH THE FIRST STEAMER

Produce and Oysters Hauled
Twenty Miles to the
Boat.

WARSAW, VA., Feb. 9.—The steamer Potomac, which left Norfolk yesterday at 11 o'clock, after a rough voyage, encountering heavy fields of ice, reached Sharps to-night. W. J. Courtney, at Monday's Point, is hauling four hundred gallons of oysters a distance of eighteen miles for night in hauling their produce, which has steamed.

Merchants within a radius of twenty miles in hauling their produce, which has accumulated for the past two weeks, across the country.

The first steamer to reach Sharps for the past nine days, and thousands of gallons of oysters will be shipped from the Rappahannock tomorrow.

J. SAMUEL M'CUE, HIS MURDERED WIFE AND THEIR PRETTY LITTLE DAUGHTER RUBY



This Interesting Picture is Enlarged from a Section of a Group Photograph of the Virginia State Bar Association Taken at an Annual Meeting.

Problem of Pardon as Seen by the Governor.

Grounds presented to the Governor yesterday for intervention in the McCue case are:
First. That circumstantial evidence should not be recognized to justify capital punishment.
Second. That in this particular case the evidence is insufficient to support a verdict of guilty.
Third. That premeditated and deliberate murder was not proven beyond a reasonable doubt.
Asked for a statement last night, the Governor said:
"These questions not only belong to judicial determination, but have actually been disposed of by the lower court, and twice approved by the Supreme Court of Appeals, after exhaustive examination."
"I am unauthorized," said he, "to reverse this procedure and these judgments."
"What about the insanity?" was asked.
"Nothing whatever has been presented to me tending to establish the insanity of Mr. McCue."
"What of the petition alleged to have been submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States?"
"I know nothing of this," answered the Governor, "save what I have seen in the newspapers; but I am lawyer enough to know that the Supreme Court of the United States has no more jurisdiction over this case than has the Supreme Appellate Court of the British Kingdom."

APPROPRIATION FOR JAMESTOWN

Committee of the House Re-
commends That \$2,650,000
be Made Available.

BILL WILL PASS THE HOUSE

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The Committee on Industrial Arts and Expositions voted to-day to recommend that the government appropriate \$2,650,000 in aid of the Exposition, to be held at Jamestown in 1907, to commemorate the tercentennial of the founding of the first permanent settlement of English speaking people in the New World. A rule will be brought in early next week providing for the discussion of the bill, and it is asserted by its friends, that it will pass not later than Wednesday. It will then go to the Senate, where it is believed it will have comparatively easy sailing.

Senate Favorable.

Indeed, it is believed that the Senate will make less stringent the provisions under which the money is to be appropriated and expended. The House committee bill provides that no part of the amount recommended to be appropriated shall be paid until the Exposition company shall have satisfied the Secretary of the Treasury that it has raised two millions. It is thought the Senate may reduce this amount. It is true, however, that the government has never before made an appropriation for an Exposition where the citizens behind the movement did not raise a greater sum than was appropriated.

"I believe there will be little difficulty in complying with this condition," said Hon. C. Brooks Johnson, of Norfolk, one of the leading spirits in the Exposition project. "We have already raised about one million, two hundred thousand and I believe the other eight hundred thousand will be forthcoming."

A Minority Report.

The committee was not unanimous in its recommendation, and four members will present a minority report, opposing an appropriation. There will be a fight on the floor of the House against the bill, but its friends claim that they will win it. The influence of President has been exerted in its behalf and when he heard to-day that the committee had recommended the appropriation, he expressed to General Lee, the pleasure which the news gave him.

Spencer Cannon, largely through the influence of Mr. Roosevelt, has been brought around to the point where he will allow the bill to be considered. Representative Maynard has received many congratulations to-day upon the action of the committee, which is believed to portend success.

CONFESSION OF KATE EDWARDS

The Woman Says She Alone Is
Guilty of the Murder of
Her Husband.

SHE EXONERATES GREASON

(By Associated Press.)

READING, PA., February 9.—Mrs. Kate Edwards, who is under sentence to be hanged with Samuel Greason on Thursday next for the murder of her husband, made a statement to her counsel to-day, in which, it is said, she exonerated Greason from all complicity in the murder. The statement will not be given to the public until it is presented to the Board of Pardons, but the inference is left that she has admitted that she alone committed the crime.

Mrs. Edwards said Greason, who is a colored man, was convicted of the murder of Edwards, and since the death sentence has been pronounced extraordinary efforts have been made to save them from the gallows. The Board of Pardons has heretofore refused to interfere, and the State Supreme Court has affirmed the lower court's verdict.

Mrs. Edwards's confession, it is thought, will place the case in an entirely new aspect before the Board of Pardons. The board will meet at Harrisburg February 16th, the day before the date fixed for the double execution. If the woman's statement is accepted by the board, it may save the man's life. If the woman is spared, she will, therefore, be entirely exonerated on sentimental grounds, as strong pressure is being brought before the board to not permit the woman to be hanged. In the trial much testimony was presented to show that Edwards was a dissolute character; that he drank heavily; that he killed his wife in a brutal manner. It was shown that Edwards was killed while he lay drunk at his home.

Story of Execution.

It is expected that the execution will at least be postponed in view of the statement of Mrs. Edwards. Another development in the case to-day was the receipt from St. Louis of an affidavit, signed by Mary Edwards, the daughter. This affidavit is as follows: "I wish to state that I was very angry at Samuel Greason for what he did to my mother, but he had nothing to do with the killing of my father, and, therefore, should not be hanged for that crime. I certainly wish they would not hang my mother."

RAILROAD SECURITIES FOR SAVINGS BANK INVESTMENTS

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
HARTFORD, CONN., Feb. 8.—A bill has just been introduced in the Connecticut Legislature to make Atlantic Coast Line, Louisville and Nashville, Maryland and Pennsylvania, and Southern Railway Company, four, and Southern Railway Company, five, and Chicago and Great Western, six, and a legal investment for Connecticut savings banks.

VAINLY STRIVING TO HELP M'CUE

Little Twelve-Year-Old Daughter of Prisoner Appeals
to Governor.

A MOST TOUCHING SCENE

The McCue case was the all-absorbing topic in Richmond yesterday and last night, and in connection therewith scenes were enacted which brought tears to the eyes of strong men and rendered more tender than ever before the sympathy in the public breast for the little children of the prisoner, whose hands have been pronounced, in the due course of law, to be stained with the innocent blood of the woman he had sworn to love and protect.

Not in years have any executive of the State been called upon to face such a heart rending ordeal as fell to the lot of Governor Montague at the hour of noon. His Excellency was seated in the executive office, reading his morning mail, much of which consisted of appeals from Baltimore and elsewhere for a commutation of the sentence, when a trio of the prisoner's nearest kin entered the reception room and asked to be allowed to see the Governor.

The party was composed of Police Justice E. O. McCue, brother of the prisoner; a sister, Mrs. Rhodes, and little Ruby, and the moment they entered it was known to all that they had come to plead for the life of their brother and father. Little Miss Ruby, clad in solid blue, with her flaxen curls hanging about her bright face, was a picture indeed beautiful to look upon, and even before she entered the Governor's private office her very presence deeply touched the hearts of those in the outer room. The party waited but a few moments, for while the Governor had had no notice of their

(Continued on Second Page.)

22 WANT HELP TO-DAY.

The 22 advertisements for help published in to-day's Times-Dispatch on page 9 are as follows:
5 Trades, 5 Domestic,
3 Salesmen, 8 Professional,
1 Agent.

This not only interests those out of work, but those desiring to improve their positions as well.

M'CUE WILL BE HANGED TO-DAY FOR HIS CRIME

All Efforts in His Behalf Come to Naught
and Condemned Man Prepares for His Im-
pending Doom With Resignation.

HEART-RENDING SCENE AS HE BIDS FAREWELL TO HIS FAMILY

Intense Morbid Curiosity in Regard to His Execution,
and Many Applicants are Refused Admission to
the Jail Yard. McCue Takes Solace in
Bible and in His Own Thoughts.

WITH THE SETTING of yesterday's sun, faded the last ray of hope that shone but faintly on the pathway of J. Samuel McCue, during the previous day, and all efforts to save him from the gallows having failed, he will pay the penalty for the awful crime of wife-murder about the hour of 7 o'clock. The day was full of thrilling and soul-stirring scenes, both here and in Charlottesville, and last night in the latter city, where the innocent life-blood of his wife was spilled, the saddest picture of the entire tragedy was witnessed, when the condemned man, with but a few hours to live, said farewell to his children and relatives, and then returned to his Bible and to communion with his God.

Three final efforts had been made, all simultaneously, it may be said, to prevent the hanging of McCue, but one after another in quick succession they proved as fruitless and unavailing as did his defense, when he stood at the bar of justice in the city whose richest honors he had enjoyed.

His little daughter Ruby, weeping as though her heart would break, appealed to the Governor in person for the life of her envied father, and then with her uncle and aunt, turned her face homeward, to bear the sorrowful story into his lonely cell, that no shadow of hope was left and to say farewell to him forever.

It was early in the day that the first adverse news was heard, and then it came at frequent intervals, until at night, Governor Montague issued the appended statement, sealing the doom of the man and declaring that mindful of his public duty, he could not set aside the judgments of the courts.

Previous to this, Mr. Justice Harlan, of the United States Supreme Court, had denied the writ of error sought, declaring that no Federal questions were involved and if there had been errors at the trial, they were not for the Federal Courts to review.

The insanity plea fell to the ground and was never brought officially to the attention of the Governor, because the expert physicians sent to Charlottesville failed to see the prisoner.

But few persons will be admitted to the hanging to-day. Among them will be the prisoner's brother, E. O. McCue, who was also given a blank ticket to be used in case any other member of the family shall desire to attend.

M'CUE LAUGHING AND CHATting FEW HOURS BEFORE HIS DEATH

(Special From a Staff Correspondent.)

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Feb. 10.—2 A. M.—At this moment McCue is in his cell laughing and chatting with two ministers of the gospel, who are spending the night with him. He is lying upon his bed, but declares he will not go to sleep between now and the hour of the execution. He is more cheerful than he has been for a week. At midnight, he ate a hearty supper.

The town is absolutely quiet. The jail is heavily guarded, but there is no danger of trouble of any sort.

The execution will occur about 7 A. M. The morning promises to be raw and bleak. The likelihood of a confession appears remote if not quite removed from the range of possibilities. To-day three newspaper men, acting jointly, sent to the cell a note placing the columns of their respective papers at the disposal of the prisoner. The reply was an extremely courteous declination of the invitation. He sent his kindest regards to the gentlemen of the press, thanked them for the interest they manifested in him, and expressed appreciation of the opportunity offered. But he declared that he desired to spend his last moments with his family and his spiritual advisers and for this reason he could not receive the reporters.

The two ministers now with McCue are the Rev. John B. Turpin, of the Baptist Church, and the Rev. H. B. Lee, of the Episcopal Church. His pastor, the Rev. Dr. George L. Petrie, visited him during the day, but owing to ill health, was unable to remain long in the cell.

HARLAN DENIES WRIT OF ERROR

No Violation of Any Constitu-
tional Right or of the
Federal Law.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 9.—The record presented to me discloses no ground whatever for a review of the judgment of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia by the Supreme Court of the United States. The application for a writ of error is, therefore, denied.

John M. Harlan, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the United States. The foregoing was the endorsement which the application for writ of error in the case of J. Samuel McCue, to be hanged in Charlottesville to-morrow here when it was returned to Marvin Smith, of Richmond, counsel for the condemned man, to-night.

"I told Mr. Smith," said Mr. Justice Harlan to The Times-Dispatch correspondent to-night, "that there was no violation of any constitutional right shown, and that if there were error, it was one which there was no violation of a Federal law."

The petition alleged that the trial

(Continued on Second Page.)

EVERY HOPE GONE: READY FOR HIS END

Execution of the Condemned
Man to Take Place Early
This Morning.

By Joseph F. Geisinger.

(Special from a Staff Correspondent.)

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Feb. 9.—With every avenue of escape closed against him, with barely a half day yet to live, J. Samuel McCue, murderer, condemned to die upon the gallows, lies closely guarded in his cell guilty awaiting the end. The nearing doom seems to hold for him no terrors, the parting life no lingering vain regrets. Breathing the atmosphere of an intense religious fervor, he sees or professes to see in the coming death no more than a grateful release.

To his weeping children and spirit crushed relatives, he has bid a long farewell, from their lips he learned the failure of the last desperate effort to save him from a murderer's grave; from them he knew that the flickering ray of hope had been swallowed up in the gloom of death itself. He heard and wept, but with his sons were mingled words of